

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A [latching] tool for latching [use on] a spring-loaded mechanism, adapted for use in a confined area of a workpiece enclosure [slot door of a moneybox enclosure], comprising:

a central bar member having a proximal and distal end;

an engagement arm pivotally mounted on said distal end of said central bar for engagement with the spring-loaded mechanism [slot door];

a pressure arm also pivotally mounted on said distal end of said central bar for engagement with [the] an inside wall of the enclosure [moneybox enclosure], said engagement arm and pressure arm having the same pivot point; [and,]

wherein the pressure arm and engagement arm are pivotable in unison and move apart from one another in the confined area of the workpiece enclosure when a linear directional force is applied to said central bar [is pushed in a downward direction] against the spring-loaded [slot door] mechanism and the inside wall of the [moneybox] enclosure for compressing the springs in the spring-loaded [door] mechanism; and

wherein said pressure arm and said engagement arm each contain a respective tab located thereon adjacent said pivot point for limiting the pivoting travel and keeping said respective arms within an operational position.

2. (Cancelled) A latching tool as recited in claim 1, wherein said engagement arm is positioned adjacent said central bar and said pressure arm.

3. (Cancelled) A latching tool as recited in claim 1, wherein said pressure arm and engagement arm are pivotally mounted on said distal end of said central bar by way of a pivot pin extending therebetween.
4. (Cancelled) A latching tool as recited in claim 2, wherein said pressure arm and said engagement arm each contain a respective tab located thereon adjacent said pivot pin for limiting the pivoting travel and keeping said respective arms within an operational position.
5. (Currently Amended) A [latching] tool as recited in claim 1, wherein said engagement arm has a relieved area for allowing said arm to pass under the mechanisms of the [moneybox] enclosure.
6. (Cancelled) A latching tool as recited in claim 1, wherein said distal end of said engagement arm is rounded.
7. (Cancelled) A latching tool as recited in claim 1, wherein said distal end of said engagement arm is coated with a smooth material.
8. (Currently Amended) A [latching] tool as recited in claim 1, wherein said pressure arm has a straight portion and an angled portion, said angled portion designed for resting against the inside wall [section] of the [moneybox] enclosure.
9. (Cancelled) A latching tool as recited in claim 1, wherein a user handgrip is positioned on said proximal end of said central bar.
10. (new) A tool for latching a spring-loaded mechanism, adapted for use in a confined area of a workpiece enclosure, comprising:

a central bar member having a proximal and distal end;

an engagement arm pivotally mounted on said distal end of said central bar for engagement with the spring-loaded mechanism, said engagement arm having a relieved area for allowing said arm to pass under the mechanisms of the enclosure;

a pressure arm also pivotally mounted on said distal end of said central bar for engagement with an inside wall of the enclosure, said engagement arm and pressure arm having the same pivot point; and,

wherein the pressure arm and engagement arm are pivotable in unison and move apart from one another in the confined area of the workpiece enclosure when a linear directional force is applied to said central bar against the spring-loaded mechanism and the inside wall of the enclosure for compressing the springs in the spring-loaded mechanism.

11. (new) A tool for latching a spring-loaded mechanism, adapted for use in a confined area of a workpiece enclosure, comprising:

a central bar member having a proximal and distal end;

an engagement arm pivotally mounted on said distal end of said central bar for engagement with the spring-loaded mechanism;

a pressure arm also pivotally mounted on said distal end of said central bar, and having a straight portion and an angled portion, said angled portion designed for resting against an inside wall of the enclosure, said engagement arm and pressure arm having the same pivot point; and,

wherein the pressure arm and engagement arm are pivotable in unison and move apart from one another in the confined area of the workpiece enclosure when a linear directional force is applied to said central bar against the spring-loaded mechanism and the inside wall of the enclosure for compressing the springs in the spring-loaded mechanism.

12. (new) A method for latching a spring-loaded mechanism in a confined area of a workpiece enclosure, comprising the steps of:

providing a central bar member having a proximal and distal end;

providing an engagement arm configured for allowing the arm to pass under the mechanisms of the enclosure, and pivotally mounted the engagement arm on the distal end of the central bar for engagement with the spring-loaded mechanism;

providing a pressure arm also pivotally mounted on the distal end of the central bar for engagement with an inside wall of the enclosure, the engagement arm and pressure arm having the same pivot point; and,

applying a linear directional force to the central bar against the spring-loaded mechanism and the inside wall of the enclosure for compressing the springs in the spring-loaded mechanism.